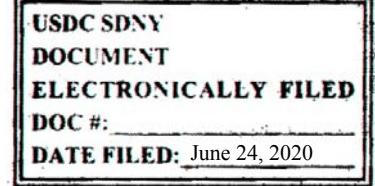


UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

-----X		
Pro Publica, Inc.,	:	
	:	
	:	
Plaintiff(s),	:	20 Civ. 4092 (LGS)
	:	
-against-	:	<u>ORDER</u>
	:	
United States Department of Health & Human Services,	:	
	:	
Defendant(s),	:	
	X	



LORNA G. SCHOFIELD, District Judge:

This case has been assigned to me for all purposes. It is hereby ORDERED that a conference will be held at **August 13, 2020 at 10:50 a.m.** The conference will be telephonic. The time of the conference is approximate, but the parties shall be ready to proceed by that time. The Court will call the parties at the number provided in the joint letter (discussed below) once the conference is ready to begin. All pretrial conferences must be attended by the attorney who will serve as principal trial counsel. The parties shall ensure they are all dialed into the conference call by the appointed conference time.

All parties are required to register promptly as filing users on ECF. Counsel are further required to review and comply with the Court's Individual Rules and Procedures ("Individual Rules") (available at the Court's website, <http://nysd.uscourts.gov/judge/Schofield>).

Counsel are directed to confer with each other prior to the conference regarding settlement and each of the other subjects to be considered at a Fed. R. Civ. P. 16 conference. Additionally, in accordance with the Court's Individual Rules, the parties are hereby ORDERED to prepare a joint Proposed Civil Case Management Plan and Scheduling Order in the form available at the Court's website (<http://nysd.uscourts.gov/judge/Schofield>) and append it to their joint letter described below. The parties **must** propose dates for the various deadlines even if they intend to request a stay of discovery.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the parties shall file a joint letter on ECF at least seven calendar days prior to the initial pre-trial conference, not to exceed 5 pages, providing the following information in separate paragraphs:

- (1) **One telephone call-in number for a conference call, and if necessary a passcode.**
If the parties are not able to arrange a conference call, they shall state that they are unable to do so.
- (2) A brief statement of the nature of the case, the principal claims and defenses, and the major legal and factual issues that are most important to resolving the case, whether by trial, settlement or dispositive motion;
- (3) A brief statement by plaintiff as to the basis of subject matter jurisdiction and venue, and a brief statement by each other party as to the presence or absence of subject matter jurisdiction and venue. Statements shall include citations to relevant statutes.

In addition, in cases for which subject matter jurisdiction is founded on diversity of citizenship, the parties shall explain the factual basis for such jurisdiction, including (i) in the case of a corporation, the principal place of business and place of incorporation, (ii) in the case of a partnership, limited liability company or trust, the citizenship of each of the entity's members, shareholders, partners and/or trustees. If this information is lengthy, it may be included in an Appendix to the letter, not to be included in the page limit.

- (3) A brief description of any (i) motions that any party seeks or intends to file, including the principal legal and other grounds in support of and opposition to the motion, (ii) pending motions and (iii) other applications that are expected to be made at the status conference;
- (4) A brief description of any discovery that has already taken place, and any discovery that is likely to be admissible under the Federal Rules of Evidence and material to proof of claims and defenses raised in the pleadings. (This is narrower than the general scope of discovery stated in Rule 26(b)(1));
- (5) A computation of each category of damages claimed, *see* Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(a)(1)(A)(iii);
- (6) A statement describing the status of any settlement discussions and whether the parties would like a settlement conference; and
- (7) Any other information that the parties believe may assist this Court in resolving the action.

If this case has been settled or otherwise terminated, counsel are not required to appear, provided that a stipulation of discontinuance, voluntary dismissal, or other proof of termination is sent prior to the date of the conference via email to the Orders and Judgment Clerk at the following email address: orders_and_judgments@nysd.uscourts.gov.

Any request for an extension or adjournment shall be made only by letter as provided in Individual Rule I.B.2 and must be received at least 48 hours before the deadline or conference. Unless counsel are notified that the conference has been adjourned, it will be held as scheduled.

Counsel who have noticed an appearance as of the issuance of this order are directed (i) to notify all other parties' attorneys in this action by serving upon each of them a copy of this order and the Court's Individual Rules forthwith, and (ii) to file proof of such notice with the Court. If unaware of the identity of counsel for any of the parties, counsel receiving this order must send a copy of this order and Individual Rules to that party personally.

DATE AND PLACE OF CONFERENCE: August 13, 2020 at 10:50 a.m., to be held telephonically in accordance with the instructions on the first page of this order.

Dated: June 24, 2020
New York, New York



LORNA G. SCHOFIELD
UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE